

APR 27 2006

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO

650 Town Center Drive

Suite 1600

Costa Mesa, California 92626-7130

(714)540-8700

Facsimile:(714)540-9823

FACSIMILE COVER SHEET**TO:** Examiner T. Lamb
Group Art Unit 2622**FROM:** Michael K. O'Neill**RE:** U.S. Application No. 09/697,499
Atty. Docket No.: 03500.014958**FAX NO.:** (571) 273-8300**DATE:** April 27, 2006**NO. OF PAGES:** 6
(including cover page)**TIME:** 3:18**SENT BY:** *Sharm***MESSAGE**

Attached is a Response to the Office Action dated January 27, 2006.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to
the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:April 27, 2006
(Date of Deposit)*Michael K. O'Neill*
Michael K. O'Neill, Reg. No. 32,622
(Name of Attorney for Applicant)

Signature

April 27, 2006
Date of Signature**IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE ALL THE PAGES
PLEASE CALL 714-540-8700 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.****Note:** We are transmitting from a Canon Model FAX-L770
(compatible with any Group I, Group II or Group III machine).

THIS FACSIMILE MESSAGE AND ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS ARE INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE ADDRESSEE INDICATED ABOVE. INFORMATION THAT IS PRIVILEGED OR OTHERWISE CONFIDENTIAL MAY BE CONTAINED THEREIN. IF YOU ARE NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT ANY DISSEMINATION, REVIEW OR USE OF THIS MESSAGE, DOCUMENTS OR INFORMATION CONTAINED THEREIN IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS MESSAGE IN ERROR, PLEASE NOTIFY US IMMEDIATELY BY TELEPHONE OR FACSIMILE AND MAIL THE ORIGINAL TO US AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS. THANK YOU.

APR 27 2006

03500.014958.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
JUNICHI KIMIZUKA, et al.) Examiner: T. Lamb
Application No.: 09/697,499) Group Art Unit: 2622
Filed: October 27, 2000)
For: IMAGE FORMATION)
APPARATUS) April 27, 2006

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

This is a response to the Office Action dated January 27, 2006. Claims 21 to 48 are in the application, of which Claims 21, 25, 31, 35, 41 and 45 are the independent claims. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

The Office Action entered a rejection of all claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent 5,140,349 (Abe). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

April 27, 2006
(Date of Deposit)

Michael K. O'Neill, Reg. No. 32,622
(Name of Attorney for Applicant)


Signature Date of Signature